

A.) AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for adjusting a position of a toilet seat, comprising:  
a first bracket and a second bracket for placement between a tank and a rear edge of a bowl of the toilet, the first bracket disposed toward a left side of the bowl and the second bracket disposed toward a right side of the bowl, the first bracket and the second bracket for securing a plurality of geared shafts to the toilet;

a first gear geared shaft, for placement between the first and second brackets closer to the tank, that rotates in response to a depression of a lever;

a second gear geared shaft, for placement between the first and second brackets closer to the bowl, operatively engaged with the first gear geared shaft such that a rotation of the first gear geared shaft causes a rotation of the second gear geared shaft; and

a flange secured to along the second gear geared shaft, the flange for attachment to a toilet seat for adjusting to adjust a position of thereof in response to the rotation of the second gear geared shaft.

2. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a lever attached to one side of the first gear geared shaft.

3. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2, the lever further comprising an upper portion and a separate lower portion of smaller diameter for fitting within an end of the upper portion.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 3, the upper portion including a securing screw disposed to secure the lower portion at a desired position within the upper portion.

5. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2, the lever further comprising a foot pedal.

6. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the foot pedal is disposed above a floor when the apparatus is mounted to a the toilet.

7. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
a plate for placement on a the toilet between a the bowl and a the tank; and  
~~a pair of the first and second~~ brackets disposed on the plate for securing the first  
~~gear geared shaft~~ and the second ~~gear geared shaft on the toilet~~.

8. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 7, the ~~pair of first and second~~ brackets each having a first bushing for ~~receiving an end of~~ securing the first ~~gear geared shaft~~ and a second bushing for ~~receiving an end of~~ securing the second ~~gear geared shaft~~.

9. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein at least one of the ~~pair of~~ brackets ~~having first and second bushing comprises~~ a friction bushing for providing friction against the rotation of the second ~~gear geared shaft~~.

10. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first ~~gear geared shaft~~ and the second ~~gear geared shaft~~ have a 1:1 gear ratio.

11. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first ~~gear geared shaft~~ and the second ~~gear geared shaft~~ have a 2:1 gear ratio.

12. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
at least one friction bushing for dampening a rotation of the second ~~gear geared~~  
shaft.

13. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
a friction bushing for dampening a rotation of the second ~~gear geared shaft~~, the  
friction bushing adjustable to provide varying amounts of friction.

14. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a toilet seat and a toilet seat cover secured to the flange.

15. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a toilet having a bowl and a tank, the first ~~gear~~ geared shaft and the second ~~gear~~ geared shaft disposed between the tank and the bowl.

16. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a cover for enclosing the first ~~gear~~ geared shaft and the second ~~gear~~ geared shaft.

17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A toilet comprising:

a foot operated mechanism disposed between a tank and a bowl, the foot operated mechanism comprising:

a first bracket and a second bracket disposed between the tank and a rear edge of the bowl of the toilet, the first bracket disposed toward a left side of the bowl and the second bracket disposed toward a right side of the bowl, the first bracket and the second bracket securing:

a first ~~gear~~ geared shaft disposed between the first and second brackets closer to the tank and having a lever disposed on at least one side for providing torque to rotate the first ~~gear~~ geared shaft;

a second ~~gear~~ geared shaft disposed between the first and second brackets closer to the bowl and operatively engaged with the first ~~gear~~ geared shaft such that a rotation of the first ~~gear~~ geared shaft in a first direction causes a rotation of the second ~~gear~~ geared shaft in an opposite direction; and

a flange secured to along the second gear geared shaft, the flange further attached to a toilet seat for adjusting a position thereof in response to a rotation of the second gear geared shaft.

19. (currently amended) A method for adjusting a position of a toilet seat, comprising:  
depressing a foot operated lever to raise a toilet seat, the foot operated lever attached to a first gear geared shaft that rotates a second gear geared shaft, the first and second geared shafts secured between a pair of brackets that are disposed on opposite sides of a bowl of a toilet, the second gear geared shaft having a flange attached to the toilet seat; and  
releasing the foot operated lever to lower the toilet seat.